

Amendment - Ser. No. 09/955,273
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IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as follows:

An apparatus for supplying and sanitizing the water line of a dental unit includes ~~comprises the following:~~ at least one second branch connected and leading into a first branch which supplies a second disinfectant / sterilizing fluid into a main line, the second branch and the main line being equipped with respective second and third shutoff elements designed to supply the first branch with the first fluid and with the second fluid alternately and as required; a first container for holding handpieces during sterilization, disinfection, flushing or cleaning of the water line; and a switch ~~switching means~~ connected to a controller ~~means~~ that can be operated manually or automatically upon the occurrence of defined events on the dental unit and designed to determine successive manual or automatic operating combinations and/or sequences that may be repeated two or more times during which the first, second and third shutoff elements are opened and closed in such a way as to perform cycles of treatment on the first branch with the first fluid and/or alternatively with the second fluid conveyed by the second branch. ~~{Figure 1}~~